

Saint Cecilia

P A R I S H



The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
12 February 2023

The Sermon on the Mount by Jan Brueghel the Elder

Saint Cecilia

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12 February 2023

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE PROCESSION | Gather Us In

Marty Haugen



1. Here in this place new light is stream - ing,
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
We are the old— who yearn for your face,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, But



See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
Call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
Now is the King - dom, now is the day.



Gath - er us in— the lost and for - sak - en,
Gath - er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty,
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion,
Gath - er us in and hold us for ev - er,

Gath - er us in— the blind and the lame;
 Gath - er us in— the proud and the strong;
 Give us to eat the bread that is you;
 Gath - er us in and make us your own;

Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 Gath - er us in— all peo - ples to - geth - er,

We shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 Give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
 Lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO WORSHIP

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

GLORIA | Mass of Renewal

Curtis Stephan

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo-ple
 of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -
 dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you

thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God, heav-en - ly

King, O God, al-might-y Fa - ther.

Lord Je - sus Christ, On-ly Be - got-ten Son, Lord God,

Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a -

way the sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed

at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer -

cy, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men, a - men.

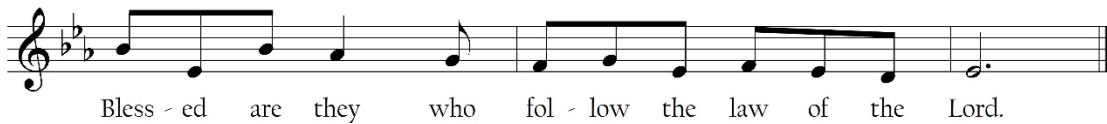
COLLECT

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING | Sirach 15: 15-20

RESPONSORIAL PSALM | Ps. 119: Blessed are They

Tony Alonso



1. Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep his decrees! With all their hearts they seek him.
2. You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept. May my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.
3. Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word.
Open my eyes, that I may see the wonders of your law.
4. Lord, teach me the way of your statutes, and I will keep them to the end.
Grant me insight that I may keep your law, and observe it wholeheartedly.

SECOND READING | 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION | Alleluia from Jubilation Mass

James J. Chepponis



GOSPEL | Matthew 5: 17-37

HOMILY

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PARISH!

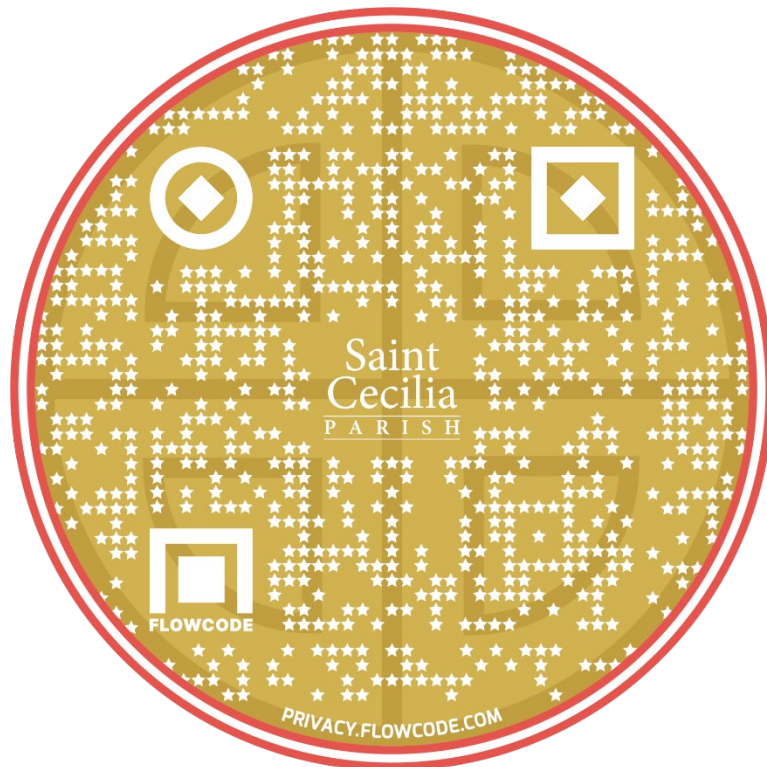
We are grateful for your ongoing support of Saint Cecilia. The easiest way to make a financial contribution to our parish is to use the parish Flowcode below.

Using the Flowcode with the camera on your smartphone is as easy as Aim & Tap. Aim your camera at the Flowcode image and tap the notification banner when it appears on your phone's screen. You may need to zoom in a bit to focus on the code.

If the Flowcode doesn't work for you, please visit www.flowcode.com/page/stceciliaboston.

You can also mail a check to:

Saint Cecilia Parish
18 Belvidere Street
Boston, MA 02115



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS | I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON



1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3. I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right - eous - ness shine on my path. And
When we have run with pa - tience the race, We



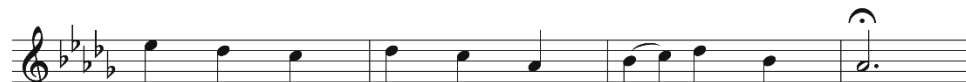
star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.



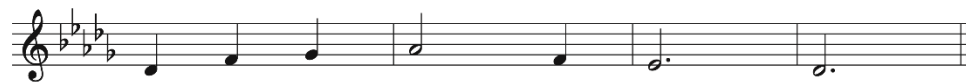
In him there is no dark - ness at all. The



night and the day are both a - like. The



Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY, HOLY | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and
earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na! Ho -
san - na! (Fine) Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-
claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

GREAT AMEN | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte

A - men. A - men. A - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD | Mass of Christ the Savior

Dan Schutte



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

It is a long-held Catholic belief that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an "Act of Spiritual Communion." When we are unable to be physically present at the celebration of the Eucharist, Pope Francis invites Catholics to say this prayer as a source of grace. We can be assured that when we express our desire to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, God will be with us spiritually in a special way. Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion that we encourage you to pray as you participate in our live-streamed liturgies:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Loving Jesus, I believe that you
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



1. All who hun-ger, gath - er glad - ly; Ho - ly man - na
 2. All who hun-ger, nev - er stran-gers; Seek-er, be a
 3. All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is



is our bread. Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring.
 wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.
 liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing.



Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for
 Here, in joy, we keep the feast. We that once were
 Here, in peace, we have been led. Blest are those who



days of full - ness, All a - round us is our food.
 lost and scat - tered In com - mun - ion's love have stood.
 from this ta - ble Live their days in grat - i - tude.

Refrain



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
 Proclaim His name to all the earth.
 Sing to the Lord, the King of all,
 Be glad and praise the Lord on high!
 Sing joyful praise to God above,
 Rejoice and sing aloud acclaim,
 And bless the mighty, Lord, our God.
 Sing joyful praise to God above.
 Come to the Lord, rejoice in song.

CONCLUDING RITES

✠ The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

✠ May almighty God bless you, the Father, (+) and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

✠ Go forth, the Mass is ended.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL | As a Fire is Meant for Burning

BEACH SPRING

1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are
3. As a green bud in the spring - time Is a

bright and warm - ing flame, So the Church is meant for
pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are
sign of life re - newed, So may we be signs of

mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.
giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay.
one - ness Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hued.

As we wit - ness to the gos - pel, We would
By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would
As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a

build a bridge of care, Join - ing hands a - cross the
show that Christ is light. In a hum - ble, lis - t'ning
storm is past and gone, May our lives re - flect the

na - tions, Find - ing neigh - bors ev - 'ry - where.
Spir - it, We would live to God's de - light.
ra - diance Of God's new and glor - ious dawn.

Music in this worship aid is printed with permission under Onelicense.net #A700-137.

For information on becoming involved or supporting the music program at Saint Cecilia,
please contact Dr. Robert Duff at 617-536-4548 or email: RDuff@stceciliaboston.org.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish, a Roman Catholic community that gathers day by day, week by week, to know and make known the grace of God. By means of this abundant grace, we enjoy a diverse and close-knit parish family—young, old, rich, poor, of various ethnic origins and differing backgrounds. From our extraordinary music program to a growing children's faith formation program; from the various liturgical ministries to the many opportunities for social outreach that the parish provides, Saint Cecilia is a vibrant community of faith, centered on prayer and worship that tries to keep the Gospel close to heart and to live by Jesus' teachings.

Saint Cecilia Parish was established in 1888. At that time the Back Bay section of Boston along Commonwealth Avenue and Beacon Street was the residential section of the Yankee aristocracy. The maids ("Irish working out girls") and coachmen who served these residents had long requested a church of their own. When Archbishop Williams granted their request and carved the parish from the territory of the Cathedral, they built a magnificent church out of their meager earnings. Our church building resides on the ancestral homeland of the Pawtucket and Massachusetts tribal nations.

The church was dedicated on April 22, 1894. Its architecture is Romanesque, XII Century Norman. The main altar, notable for its massive simplicity, was carved from a single block of white Carrara marble. The painting in the center reredos is a reproduction of da Vinci's The Last Supper, and the dome above is an array of 24K gold rosettes.

For the sixtieth anniversary celebration in 1954, a massive renovation project was undertaken. During this renovation, a statue of Pope Saint Pius X (canonized that same year) was imported from Italy and placed on the right side of the sanctuary. Above the statue are paintings from Pius' life. On the left side is a statue of Saint Patrick, principal patron of the Archdiocese of Boston, and above it are three scenes from his life.

Fourteen circular and sixteen square panels adorn the nave and arches of the church. The square panels are decorated with the symbols of Our Lady taken from the Litany of Loreto and the circular ones with symbols taken from the lives of the apostles. The great window of the Assumption—framed by the two oak cases of the organ—was installed in 1954 (the Marian Year) in spaces originally designed for windows but not until then used.

The original organ of 24 stops was built in 1902 by the Hutchings-Votey Organ Company, Opus 1465, and was rebuilt in 1954 with 32 stops. In 1998, Timothy Smith and Theodore Gilbert began a massive reconstruction of the organ. The current Smith & Gilbert Organ of 4 manuals, 54 ranks, and 3,084 pipes was dedicated on the Feast of Saint Cecilia, November 22, 1999.

Today we are experiencing something of an awakening within these old walls. Our numbers are increasing by 350 new households each year, and we continue to grow in our commitment to issues of peace, justice, and service to our neighbors, both near and far.

We've been right here on Belvidere Street, in the same building for over 125 years, but that does not mean that life here is stale, stagnant, or even predictable. We are proud to be entrusted with the legacy of Saint Cecilia Parish, where everything is the same, yet always changing; where we honor tradition while embracing the future; where God's love makes all things new.

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, February 11 | 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, celebrant
Richard Gaillardetz, lector

Sunday, February 12 | 8:00 a.m.

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ, celebrant
Jordan Barnes, lector

Sunday, February 12 | 9:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Nicole Boyce, Eileen Maguire,
and Michael Lake, lectors

Sunday, February 12 | 11:30 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Mark Richburg, James Paradis,
and Chika Offurum, lectors

Sunday, February 12 | 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, celebrant
Julie Bogdanski and Jim Dougherty, lectors

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 12 | 8:00 a.m.

John and Angelina Machado, *Memorial*

Sunday, February 12 | 9:30 a.m.

Laura Shea, *3rd Anniversary*

Liz Pino, *13th Anniversary*

Siobhan Shea, *Memorial*

Deceased Members of the Coma Family, *Memorial*

Tony Silvaggio, *Memorial*

Dinah Flores-Terrizzi, *Memorial*

TODAY'S READINGS

Sirach 15:15-20

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

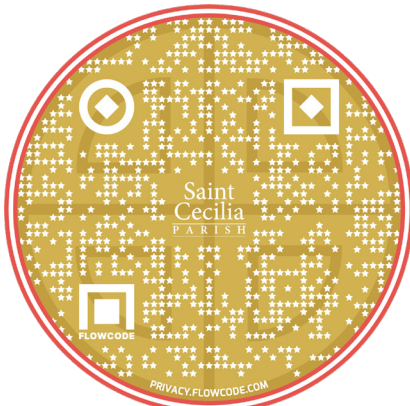
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

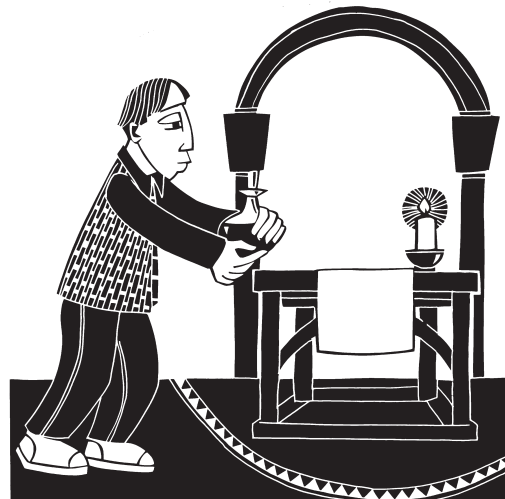
1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

SCAN THIS CODE
FOR OFFERTORY GIVING.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF SAINT CECILIA PARISH!



PRAYERS & OCCASIONS



Our Sick

Please pray for all our sick and for those who are in need of our prayer, especially **Mary Torok, Glenn Gallo, Carol Tebo, John Hosang, Mary Walters, Marc Pelletier, Ray Cronin, Rick Gaillardetz, Michele Maniscalco, Nick Hungerford, and Fred Tufts.**

Welcome to Saint Cecilia Parish

We are pleased to welcome the following newly registered members of our parish: **Lauren Lavallee** and **Alfonse Femino** of Reading, **Lisa Jones** of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, **Jorge Martinez Hernandez** of Boston, **Corinne Pryor** of Hooksett, New Hampshire, **Barbara and Robert Cancialosi** of Lexington, **Kathryn Klahn** and **Chris Gaertner** of Boston, the **Donovan-Ryder Family** of Middleton, **Richard Trainor** and **Denisse Joniaux** of Lynnfield, **Elise and Nick Plugis** of Boston, the **Leahy-Cronin Family** of Plainville, **Michael Covington** of Boston, **Dana-Zoe Gest** of Chelsea, and **Andrea Crunkhorn** of Fairfax, Virginia. If you have not previously registered you can do so online at www.stceciliaboston.org.

Black History Month

During the month of February we recognize that Black history is American history. To divorce the two is to perpetuate the systematic oppression and violence our neighbors of color face. Though only 28 days long, Black History Month is a time to celebrate and lift up the lives and achievements of Black Americans past and present. We plan to celebrate this year by sharing articles and highlighting some facts about some noteworthy Black figures in history. These values echo the main principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and we pray that they are increasingly embraced by all Americans.

World Marriage Day

Today the Church celebrates World Marriage Day. Pray that all married couples will be blessed with the wisdom to see, affirm, and appreciate the gift that they are to each other. Pray also for couples struggling in their marriage, that they might find the strength to work through their difficulties and recommit themselves to each other.



Liturgy of the Hours

On Saturday, February 11, the Church celebrates the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick. We will pray Lauds at 9:00 a.m. Join us live on the Saint Cecilia Facebook page or via Zoom. Please email sc.hoursandtaize@gmail.com for more information.

Celebration of First Reconciliation

On Saturday, February 11, we celebrate the sacrament of first reconciliation with the 28 children preparing to receive their first communion on May 13th. In their classes, they are learning about how much God loves them and more about how they will be welcomed to God's table through the Eucharist. Pray for our first communicants and for all the children in our Faith Formation program—that the gentle and loving presence of God continues to be made known to them.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

"Is there anyone sick among you?" This question, found in the New Testament Letter of James, gives the response that the sick should call for the priests of the Church who are to pray over and anoint the sick with oil in the name of the Lord. Never hesitate to call the parish office to ask for prayer and the Sacrament of the Sick prior to surgery or when diagnosed with serious illness. This sacrament is not to be looked upon as the "Last Rites" but rather as a powerful instrument of God's healing presence.

On February 11, the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Church observes World Day of the Sick. This celebration is a reminder to pray for all those who are sick and to recognize and honor those who work in healthcare and those who serve as caregivers. At Saint Cecilia, we will observe this day on Saturday, February 11 following the 5:00 p.m. liturgy and on Sunday, February 12 following the 8:00 and 11:30 liturgies with a communal Anointing of the Sick and a blessing of healthcare workers and caregivers. If you would like to take part in this special celebration, be sure to attend one of these liturgies.



WINTER WALK BOSTON

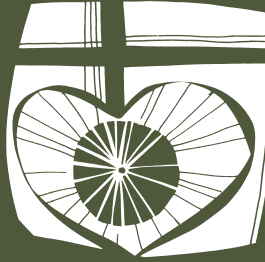
Ending homelessness is within our reach! For the seventh year, a consortium of agencies focused on homelessness, including Women's Lunch Place, Pine Street Inn, Boston Health Care for the Homeless, Y2Y Harvard Square, and common cathedral are sponsoring a 2-mile fundraising walk through the streets of Boston. The event takes place on Sunday, February 12 at 8:30 a.m. and begins at Copley Square Plaza. We hope each adult walker will raise \$100—either by paying it as a registration fee or fundraising it. We have a Saint Cecilia Hunger & Homelessness Ministry team again this year and if you'd like to join or support it, please go to: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winterwalkboston23/register/form/registration> or contact Mark.Lippolt@gmail.com.

And if you are unable to join us for the Walk, you can still support the team by donating at: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winterwalkboston23/team/911184/>

Members of the Saint Cecilia Winter Walk Team will be at weekend Masses if you would like to make a donation by check (made payable to "Winter Walk Boston") or cash.



SEEKING MARRIED COUPLES FOR SAINT CECILIA'S MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM (PRE-CANA)



One of the primary initiatives of our Marriage Ministry is to offer a Marriage Prep course for all engaged couples. Since 2019, Saint Cecilia has offered our own course, based on the Archdiocese model of Marriage Prep ("Transformed in Love"), in which married couples serve as witness couples to lead the engaged couples through the coursework.

But we can't do this without your help! Whether you have been married for a month or 50 years, we would love your marital experience and wisdom for the engaged couples enrolled in the program. Marriage Prep courses are offered several times a year, but commitments are flexible. *Our next class is March 4/March 11!* For more information, email Julianne and Michael Lavelle at stc.marriage@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

CONCERT TO BENEFIT WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

Sunday, February 19, 2023 | 7:30 p.m.



"Music for Food" is a musician-led initiative to fight hunger in our local communities. According to Project Bread: "Prior to the pandemic, household food insecurity in Massachusetts was at 8.2%. The coronavirus pandemic fueled a hunger crisis unlike any other in our lifetime, at its peak rendering 19.6% of households food insecure." Music for Food's concerts have raised funds to create more than 1.5 million meals.

Music for Food's 13th season continues at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 19, in New England Conservatory's Brown Hall. The incredible Don Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, Vivian Weilerstein, William Coleman, Meesun Hong Coleman, Yiliang Jiang, Jeffrey Ho, Samuel Zacharia, Cameron Stowe, and Katherine Whyte will perform Charlotte Bray's *Replay* for Piano Quartet, George Benjamin's "Viola, Viola," Benjamin Britten's *String Quartet in D major*, and Britten's *On This Island*. Admission is free, and all donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place (WLP), which will soon launch its 40th anniversary of providing needed resources to vulnerable women in Boston.

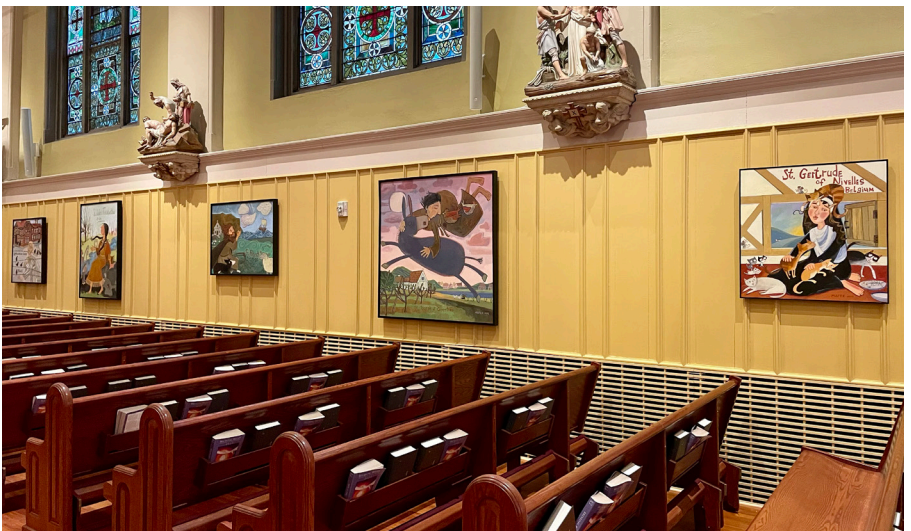
Suggested donation is \$30+ and \$10+ for students, collected at the door. 100% of donations will benefit Women's Lunch Place—a day shelter serving women experiencing homelessness, hunger, and poverty in the greater Boston area. Masks are required. To reserve your tickets: <https://musicforfood.net/boston/s13core3>

LIVES OF THE SAINTS

AN EXHIBIT BY ARTIST NANCY MAREK COTE

On display at Saint Cecilia from February 11 through the end of May

If you come into the church this weekend, prepare to be wowed! From now until the end of May, we will be surrounded by colorful, mixed-media paintings featuring a contemporary take on eighteen of our most familiar saints (canonized and not). This exhibition of works by artist Nancy Marek Cote provides a fresh perspective on some of the most well-known and beloved friends of God, including the debut of Nancy's newest work featuring Servant of God Thea Bowman, created specifically for Saint Cecilia. Nancy's paintings portray the lives of the saints in a new and modern way that is both whimsical and joyful. Her unique style captures the spirit of these men and women—our patrons and companions—in a delightful way that communicates something of their relationship with God. Nancy's paintings demonstrate what she calls, "the joy of finding God."





We're pleased to announce that Nancy's most recent work of Servant of God Thea Bowman will remain at Saint Cecilia permanently. About this painting, Nancy says,

"Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman was filled with a love that was felt by everyone around her. Through music, community, teaching, and prayer, she spread God's light, breaking down racial and cultural barriers. Creating the composition for my painting of Thea was almost effortless. After reading and researching more about her life, I felt like I knew her personally and, if I kept my heart open, pure, and joyful, the image of this extraordinary woman who reflected every quality of a saint who walked among us would unfold."

About Sister Thea Bowman:

Born in 1937 in Yazoo City, Mississippi, the granddaughter of slaves, Sister Thea became a Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration—the only African American member of the congregation. Through her gift of singing, gospel preaching, teaching, prayer, and storytelling, Sister Thea's life and work left a lasting mark on U.S. Catholic life in the late twentieth century. Sister Thea worked to break down racial and cultural barriers and to encourage people to communicate with one another as a way of better understanding other cultures and races. Sister Thea died of cancer in 1990, and in 2018 the Diocese of Jackson opened her cause for sainthood and bestowed on her the designation 'Servant of God.'

If you would like to learn more about Sister Thea Bowman, we encourage you to watch the 2022 documentary *Going Home Like a Shooting Star: Thea Bowman's Journey to Sainthood*. This hour-long film shines a light on the life, message, and legacy of Sister Thea, while exploring her work as an advocate for racial justice and intercultural understanding. The idea for the film came to Sister Judith Ann Zielinski, OSF, who wrote and produced the film following the 2020 murder of George Floyd. The documentary features commentary from those who knew Sister Thea personally and highlights her joy-filled spirit, life-changing cancer diagnosis, and the power of her 1989 speech to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. This film premiered on ABC last fall and is now available for streaming on the Diocese of Jackson's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9oOa2iOwck>). To read a review of this film, please see pages 9 and 10 of the bulletin.

(Right) From the sanctuary to the narthex: Saint Cecilia, Saint Mary, Saint Francis of Assisi, Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Saint Patrick, Saint Joseph (Giuseppe) of Cupertino, Saint Gertrude of Nivelles, Saint Lucy

(Left) From the sanctuary to the narthex: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Servant of God Thea Bowman, Saint Martin de Porres, Saint Anthony of Padua, Saint Oscar Romero, Saint Josephine Bakhita, Servant of God Dorothy Day, and Saint Isidore the Farmer
Narthex: Our Lady of Guadalupe

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EVENTS

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY CAMPUS EVENTS/WEBINARS

Imagination and Faithful Practices of Resistance

Presenter: Callid Keefe-Perry, Assistant Professor of Contextual Education and Public Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Thursday, February 16, 2023 | 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid-TML Auditorium, Theology and Ministry Library, Room 113 Boston College, Brighton Campus, 117 Lake Street | Registration Required | Free of charge

Do THE WORK: Toward a Catholic Anti-Racism

Presenter: Tia Noelle Pratt, Assistant Vice President for Mission Engagement and Strategic Initiatives, Villanova University

Thursday, February 23, 2023 | 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. | Hybrid-TML Auditorium, Theology and Ministry Library, Room 113 Boston College, Brighton Campus, 117 Lake Street | Registration Required | Free of charge

Father Ed: The Story of Bill W.'s Spiritual Sponsor

Presenter: Dawn Eden Goldstein, author of a new biography entitled *Father Ed: The Story of Bill W.'s Spiritual Sponsor*

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Attend in person (lunch provided) or virtually | Boston College, Chestnut Hill | Corcoran Commons, Heights Room | Registration Required | Free of charge

To learn more or register, visit: <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/continuing-education/campus-events.html>

BOSTON COLLEGE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY ONLINE COURSES

History Of The Church II: The Reformation To Vatican II
February 15 -March 21, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required| \$60.00

Lent 2023 - Reflecting Together

February 15 -March 28, 2023 | 6-Week Online Course
Registration Required| \$60.00

Mapping Your Inner Landscape

February 15 -March 21, 2023 | 5-Week Online Course
Registration Required| \$60.00

To learn more or register, visit the STM Online Crossroads website:
<https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web/schools/stm/sites/crossroads.html>

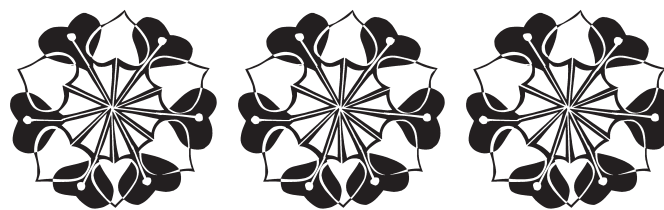
SAINT SUSANNA PARISH — DEDHAM

Heaven, Hell, Resurrection, and the After Life

Presenter: Dr. Nate DesRosiers, Associate Professor in Religious Studies at Stonehill College

Monday, February 13, 2023 | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | Zoom

For more on this presentation, please check the website:
https://saintsusanna.org/adult_faith_formation.html



SAINT CECILIA YOUNG ADULTS CATECHISM STUDY MEETING



The Creed: We profess it every week, but what does it really mean? Join the SCYA Catechism study group Monday February 20th 7-8 pm over Zoom as we dive into the opening lines of the Creed “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.” All are welcome! Scan the QR code to receive the meeting link.

HELP HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WELCOME FAMILIES TO THEIR NEW HOMES!

Here’s Habitat Greater Boston’s Amazon Wish List of items that will make moving into a new Habitat home even more special for local families!

Your generosity makes a significant impact on the lives of these families. All items on this list are reasonably priced under \$75: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/38KJ36TTTTSL8Y?ref_=wl_share



REVIEW: THEA BOWMAN DOCUMENTARY SHINES LIKE A 'SHOOTING STAR'

BY GUNNAR B. GUNDERSEN

Servant of God Thea Bowman continues to share the Good News, and one way to experience her wonderful ministry is by watching and sharing the new documentary on her life, *Going Home Like a Shooting Star: Thea Bowman's Journey to Sainthood*.

The film premiered on ABC earlier this fall, and is currently streaming online on the Diocese of Jackson's YouTube channel. It is a powerful and inspiring examination of Bowman's life, message, and sanctity.

As a visual biography, it gives an excellent overview of everything from her very early life with her parents to the end of her earthly life and her ongoing legacy. An important part of that story is how the Church, and specifically the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, invested in the education of Black children in the 20th century, including a young Bertha Bowman (who would become Sister Thea). Their faith in action inspired her to become a Catholic at the age of 9, and she soon became aware of her vocation.

The documentary does not shy away from the difficulties Bowman faced in pursuing a vocation within an all-White community. It also describes her navigating how much she should "assimilate" without sacrificing her Black self. The initial experience was one of repression, and much of the story from there focuses on how she learned to liberate herself within the context of the FSPA community.

Of course, the film also delves into how this spiritual journey of freedom has become a gift that Bowman has given the Church—especially the Black Church.

She became a voice of Black liberation within the Catholic context, showing how to love ourselves and our community within a Church that often supports leaders and spaces that want to hurt us. The documentary emphasizes this.

It's a wholesome thing, considering that this aspect of her ministry is one of the reasons so many of us are attached to her and have a special devotion to her.

Bowman had insights with respect to racism and the Gospel that are needed now more than ever. As Pope Francis stated in *Fratelli Tutti*, "Racism is a virus that quickly mutates and, instead of disappearing, goes into hiding, and lurks in waiting." It may be hard for some to see, but Sister Thea shared the different ways we can reveal the virus and protect ourselves from it.

She did this by embracing African clothing rather than European-inspired habits, by teaching Black spiritual and gospel music, and by sharing Black ways of speaking and moving. While we frequently hear about the "true, good, and beautiful" in modern evangelization, we do not see enough of it expressed in Black Catholic ways. Sister Thea shows us how to live this out authentically within the Catholic Church.

The contributors to the documentary had deep personal knowledge of her: schoolmates, fellow religious sisters, students, and scholars. Among them is Fr. Maurice Nutt, CSsR, a former student of hers that has written several books on her life, which I cannot recommend highly enough.

The inevitable turning point in the narrative is when Sister Thea is diagnosed with cancer. It was something that she offered to the Lord with the prayer, "Let me live until I die." The Lord granted her prayer, and the documentary helps you see the joy she had and spread during a very difficult time, while not hiding her hardships.

Near its end, the movie turns to what was, once upon a time, my first experience of Sister Thea: her timeless speech to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in June 1989, on what it

means to be Black in the Church and society. She was joyful, but clearly suffering from the ravages of cancer—similar to the last time I saw my Black abuela who loved her faith and the Church so much. Seeing this speech helped keep me in the faith when I felt that so many in the Church wished to push me out. (Part of the reason I write this review now rather than October is that these scenes were hard to get through emotionally.)

Alongside the recounting of her legendary speech, the film includes excellent commentary from Fr. Bryan Massingale, who draws on Sister Thea's rhetoric when saying she comes to the Church as a "fully functioning" Black Catholic. She follows that up by asking the bishops: "That doesn't frighten you, does it?" As Massingale points out, the question was asked because it likely did frighten them. And there is evidence that it still does today.

The documentary also discusses the importance and value of Black clergy, especially bishops, and how Sister Thea emphasized such in her thought and her speech. It's made even more poignant when considering recent reporting by Nate Tinner-Williams that "it's likely that roughly half of the nation's currently active Black Catholic bishops—most of whom are openly aligned with Pope Francis' vision for the Church—will no longer be in office by the time the USCCB meets [in] summer 2023 for its next general assembly."

On the topic of legacy, many think of the question: "What would Sister Thea be doing today?" Massingale rephrases things in a powerful way: What is she doing today through her living legacy, especially her students? I can testify that she is still working for us through those like Fr. Nutt who continue to make her teaching accessible, and through her heavenly intercession. That is one of the reasons that Orange County, California's first council of the Knights of Peter Claver, of which I am a founding member, named our council after Sister Thea.

Notably, the segment in the film on Bowman's lasting impact generally presented even the Black Lives Matter movement in a positive way. There is one mention of rioting in connection with protests, but it thankfully did not take up too much time. It was maybe the one thing I wished that had been left out. The main takeaway, and the right one, is that Sister Thea helped lay the foundation for things like BLM to exist in our society today. It was a great way to capture her legacy in this Catholic documentary.

Right now, it is easy to be discouraged. Many Black Catholics are rightfully seeing that we are not wanted by our own Church members, including many in leadership. As such,

Going Home Like a Shooting Star has come at a perfect time. It is an inspiration. It is an instruction manual. It is a call to seek the intercessory power of one who was able to perform miracles of inspiration and reconciliation during her time on earth. Sister Thea has helped so many to find reasons to stay in the Church, but to not accept abuse: to really live the faith in a way that causes us to thrive as Black people. That really is the key.

For a Church in which it has become all too easy to dismiss Black people as "woke," to describe us as "vile," to see us as promoting anti-Christianity, and to spread all the other common tropes associated with Black spirituality, this documentary is a powerful reminder that we have someone who finished the race and kept the faith fighting for us to make it as fully functioning Black Catholics. This is our Church too, and no one can take that away from us—thanks to women like Servant of God Thea Bowman.

~ Gunnar Gundersen is an attorney in Newport Beach, CA. He serves in his parish council and choir, is a published essayist, and regularly lectures on natural law and the American Founding. He is also the first Ordinariate member of the Knights of Peter Claver.

Watch the documentary here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9oOa2iOwck> or search *Going Home Like a Shooting Star: Thea Bowman's Journey to Sainthood* on YouTube. You'll find the video on the Catholic Diocese of Jackson's YouTube channel.



DID YOU KNOW?

For many years, the Saint Cecilia Rainbow Ministry has supported Waltham House in several ways, including the Advent Giving Tree. Waltham House is the first residential group home in New England designed specifically for LGBTQ+ youth, and was among the first of its kind in the nation when it opened in 2002.



PARISH RESOURCES

Parish Office & Mailing Address

18 Belvidere Street, Boston, MA 02115

Hours | Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. & By Appointment

Phone | 617 536 4548; Fax | 617 536 1781

E-mail | info@stceciliaboston.org

Website | www.stceciliaboston.org

Parish Staff

Rev. John J. Unni, Pastor

Rev. James Shaughnessy, SJ, Pastoral Support

Keith Brinkley, Mike Currier, Rudy Flores, Parker Olson,

Corey Ortiz, Reception

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Colleen Melaugh, Director of Finance and Development

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Lisa Pickering, Director of Facilities and Events

lpickering@stceciliaboston.org

Assisting Clergy

Rev. Terrence Devino, SJ

Rev. Peter Grover, OMF

Rev. Peter Gyves, SJ

Audiovisual Support

Maureen Deery, Parish Photographer & Creator of Weekly Slide Show

mcdeery@gmail.com

Geoffrey Edwards, Livestream Videographer

gedwards@stceciliaboston.org

Vasily Izumchensky, Livestream Sound Engineer

vizumchensky@berklee.edu

Schedule for Liturgy

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday | 8:00 a.m.

Lord's Day | Sat 5:00 p.m.; Sun 8:00, 9:30*, 11:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Holy Days | 8:00 a.m.

* Please note that the 9:30 Mass is both in person and livestreamed.

Baptism for Infants

Infant baptism is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. For more information, please contact Mark Donohoe in the Parish Office.

Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact our Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Olivia Hastie, at ohastie@stceciliaboston.org.

Marriage

Couples who wish to prepare for marriage should contact Mark Donohoe in the Parish Office at least six months in advance.

Order of Christian Funerals

The parish is prepared to celebrate the Vigil (wake) in the church. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation.

Care of the Sick

To arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick, for Holy Communion to be brought to those unable to attend the Sunday celebration, or for Viaticum for the Dying (Holy Communion for those in danger of death), please contact the Parish Office. It is always possible to anoint the sick during regularly scheduled liturgies.

Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team

The CAP Team is responsible for training all parish staff and volunteers in mandated reporting laws and the Protecting God's Children program (VIR-TUS). They also provide consultation and support to anyone in the parish who has concerns about reporting child abuse and neglect. Please contact Lois Flaherty (loisflaherty@gmail.com), Maria Roche (maria.roche15@gmail.com), Letitia Howland (L_howland@hotmail.com), or Erin Young (erin.t.young@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

The Archdiocese of Boston has in place a vigorous program to protect children from harm and to educate its ministers and faithful about the nature of abuse, with a goal of increasing knowledge, creating a safe environment for children, and recognizing and reporting potentially dangerous situations. The full text of the policy is also available in the narthex and Parish Office, as well as on our website.

For Those with Celiac Disease

If you have celiac disease, please let us know. We have a supply of low-gluten altar bread available for those who cannot tolerate gluten.

Hearing Assistance in Church

The church is equipped with an assistive listening system. If you would like to use one of the small receivers, please ask one of our greeters.

Building Accessibility

Both the church and Parish Hall Center are accessible by elevator.

Parking

There is discounted parking at The Hynes Auditorium Garage (located at 50 Dalton Street next to Bukowski's Tavern), for \$13, available on Sundays until 3:00 p.m., and \$13 after 4:00 every day of the week. To take advantage of this discount, ask a greeter for a chaser ticket at Mass or ask a staff person during the week. Chaser tickets must be used at the machine at the exit gate. To obtain the discount, place the ticket you received upon entering the garage into the machine, then follow it with the chaser ticket.

Joining Our Community

We're happy that you're with us! Our community offers a warm, spiritual home for a diverse group of Catholics. We come from many neighborhoods in and around Boston, but also have long distance parishioners from around the country and around the world. If you are local, please introduce yourself to a staff member or drop in for coffee on Sunday. We invite both local and long distance individuals and families to fill out a new parishioner form on our website. No matter what your background or location, please know that you are always welcome at Saint Cecilia.